

the

MAIDEN VOYAGE

a daughters of bilitis newsletter/boston chapter/p.o. box 221  
prudential center station, boston, mass. 02199/vol. 1, no. 1

"The responsibility of  
tolerance lies with those  
who have the wider vision."

december, 1969

George Eliot  
(MaryAnn Evans)

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FUNCTION OF OFFICERS IN AN  
ORGANIZATION

People sometimes find that when officers are elected, the course of an organization such as ours is chartered by their personalities and philosophies. Your officers in Boston D.O.B. hope they will be an exception to this principle.

We believe it is for everyone to suggest ideas, officers and members alike. We believe once an idea from any source has been accepted by the group, it is our job to see that it gets converted into action. We believe action must come from both members and officers, and we will look for and work for active participation by as many people as possible in each of the group's projects.

We believe the function of officers in an organization is to serve the group--to put people in contact with people, to keep records, to make suggestions, to tend to the details, and, above all, to see that things get done.

We make promises to Boston D.O.B.: that this will be an organization that does things, that welcomes all as members, and that listens to all its members.

BOSTON COMES OUT

Now that DOB Boston seems well on its way toward becoming an active, progressive chapter of the national organization, those new to the group may wonder how it all started here in the Commonwealth.

Joan Kent, National Vice President East, ran an announcement in the June issue of the New York Newsletter asking that those interested in forming chapters in their areas write her.

This Newsletter, sent to DOB members in various cities where there is no chapter, was given by a friend to Teddy Andot of Boston.

Teddy was not a member of DOB, although she knew of the organization's general purposes and had read some copies of The Ladder years back. She read Joan's announcement: "a place where you could meet, have discussions, dances, and work for legal rights"; and she recognized the need for such a place in the Boston area. Accordingly, Teddy wrote immediately to say she would be interested in helping form a Boston Chapter.

In addition to answering Teddy's letter, Joan notified Gene Damon, editor of The Ladder, knowing that another Bostonian was helping Gene with the magazine. Gene promptly put Teddy in touch with Kim Stabinski.

(cont. from page 1)

Teddy and Kim met early in June and spent many hours discussing D.O.B. Boston. The last weekend in June they went to New York to visit with Joan Kent and discuss a chapter in earnest.

Aided by referrals from national officers and another chapter president, Teddy, acting as president pro tem and assisted by Kim as secretary pro tem, began making contacts, setting up the first organizational meeting for September 12.

Although only six women were present for this meeting, the group had high hopes, spurred also by Gene's promised publicity in the LADDER. Our first actual mention in the national magazine came as a flyer, attached to the cover of the August/September issue. This flyer, typed and attached to all copies coming into this area by National President Rita Laporte, announced our Boston address and brought in a number of inquiries.

The second meeting on October 24 found 16 prospective members present, while the third meeting on November 7 drew a group of 15 interested in forming a chapter.

When 21 women came forth on November 21, it became obvious that the group would soon outgrow Teddy's home, where the first four meetings were held. Accordingly, Ann Haley made arrangements for us to move temporarily to the Clarke Room of the Arlington St. Church. It was here that 46 women gathered for the fifth meeting on December 5, electing officers in one of the final steps before applying to National Headquarters for a chapter.

D.O.B. Boston will be busy, as any organization new to an area is busy, D.O.B. Boston will be particularly busy because of the pressing need, too long unfulfilled, for a chapter in this locality. D.O.B. Boston will be active, moving in numerous directions to fill the needs of the individuals involved and to touch the society in which they find themselves.

In with all this activity, we should pause and remember that this chapter was the idea, the ideal, of individuals who recognized a need and cared enough to do something about it. Our hats are off to these pioneers who laid the groundwork for D.O.B. Boston.

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BOSTON DOB OFFICERS

President: Ann Haley, 24 Linwood Ave., Melrose, Mass. 665-~~3967~~  
3976

Vice President: Diana Travis  
19 Frawley St., Boston, Mass.  
277-8952

Secretary: Donna Ferguson  
Worcester, Mass.

Treasurer: Andy Cox, Weare, N.H.

Please contact these people at any time.

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BOSTON DOB ADDRESS

We are experiencing difficulty in getting our mail. If you have written D.O.B. at the J.F. Kennedy Post Office Box and have not received an answer, please keep the faith- we'll get and answer your letter as soon as possible. In the meantime, please do not use the J.F. Kennedy address any longer. Boston D.O.B.'s new mailing address is: P.O. Box, 221, Prudential Center Station, Boston, Mass. 02199

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NOTE OF THANKS:  
THIS ISSUE WAS MADE FINANCIALLY POSSIBLE THROUGH THE PERSONAL COMPLIMENTS OF RON KUMIN.

OPEN FORUM

DEAR READER: We are your product; therefore, it is essential to know your opinions and viewpoints on matters that should be relevant to us all. This space will be devoted each month as a podium for you to speak out on various questions that will be posed, hopefully, by you, the readers. This being our first newsletter, VOYAGE has taken the liberty of choosing this month's O.F.Q. (open forum question).

O.F.Q.#1: What's your answer when parents and business associates ask you where or who your boyfriend is?

Please mail your response and/or O.F.Q.#2 to Open Forum, P.O. Box 221, Prudential Center Station, Boston, Mass. 02199.

VOYAGE is eagerly awaiting your letters. YOU ARE OPEN FORUM.

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PROGRESS

A central purpose of Boston D.O.B. is to gain social acceptance for homosexuality. Although our organization is very new, we have already made some progress in this area.

-Donna Ferguson and Diana Travis succeeded in getting the LADDER publicly sold in two bookstores in Massachusetts. Both the Paperback Booksmith in Worcester and the Paperback Booksmith in Kenmore Square, Boston, will carry the magazine which is clearly marked a "Lesbian Review".

-Diana Travis convinced the editor of BOSTON AFTER DARK that his paper should abandon its policy of refusing advertisements pertaining to homosexuality and accept Boston D.O.B.'s ad which was designed to sell copies of the LADDER.

-Marty Kelly, Diana Travis and Ann Haley appeared on Steve Frederick's show on radio WMEX, November 22, and for three hours answered telephone calls about Boston D.O.B. and Lesbians. Marty wanted to appear on the show as Donna Dyke, but the talkmaster Fredericks convinced her that Boston was not yet ready for this.

-Ann Haley found unexpected social acceptance when she contacted the Arlington Street Church and found the church would welcome D.O.B.

EXTRA!

BOSTON D.O.B. WILL APPEAR ON THE ED MILLER TELEVISION SHOW, DECEMBER 29, FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON ON CHANNEL 7. D.O.B. REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE RECEIVING TELEPHONED QUESTIONS FROM THE VIEWING AUDIENCE. YOUR SUPPORT IS ALWAYS WELCOME.

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GENERATION GAP?

There is no generation or age gap for those who wish to belong to D.O.B.'s activities. The only necessity is that you must be 21 years or over to take part in the actual voting and to be an actual member.

We are all striving for the same cause and should all help in achieving our goals. Age is definitely no barrier - for those who are willing to give and share and enjoy are ageless.

So whether we're teething or toothless or in-between - just remember - we're all "Daughters Of Bilitis"!!!

"Going to the D.O.B XMAS SOCIAL?"



"OF course!  
- Isn't everyone?"

B.O.B

\$2.50  
DUMPLINGS  
COVER  
Setups

Admission  
to friends  
& members -  
WOMEN ONLY,  
PLEASE!

DEC. 20  
8:30

GRANGE HALL,  
WEARE, N.H.

From Boston, take either Route 93 or Route 3 to Route 101 West until it runs into 114 North (just past 3 traffic lights). At the blinking yellow light where 101 hits 114, take a left and follow 114 North through Goffstown and into Weare.

At the junction of Route 77 (marked by a Phillips 66 station), take an extreme sharp left onto Route 77. Turn right on to 149 going about 300 feet. The Grange Hall is the first building on the right; park in front of it or in the driveway of the house immediately across the street. Allow approximately 1 and 1/2 hours for the trip.

Interested in a car pool? If you need transportation or if you plan to come with less than a full car and could bring another passenger or two, call either Diana or Katy in Boston at 277-8952 (evening up to midnight). Also call to let it be known what liquor setups (those over 21, only - please) you would care for.

D.O.B. offers very special thanks to Sandy Cavanagh for making our party possible! So circle 12/20/69 and we'll see you there!

POEM FOR PARENTS

And a woman who held a babe  
 against her bosom said, Speak  
 to us of Children.  
 And he Said:  
 Your children are not your children.  
 They are the sons and daughters of  
 Life's longing for itself.  
 They come through you, but not from  
 you,  
 And though they are with you, they  
 belong not to you.  
 You may give them your love, but not  
 your thoughts.  
 For they have their own thoughts.  
 You may house their bodies, but  
 not their souls,  
 For their souls dwell in the house  
 of tomorrow, which you cannot visit,  
 not even in your dreams.  
 You may strive to be like them, but  
 seek not to make them like you.  
 For life goes not backward nor tarries  
 with yesterday.  
 You are the bows from which your children  
 as living arrows are sent forth.  
 The archer sees the mark upon the path  
 of the infinite, and He bends you with  
 his might that His arrows may go swift  
 and far.  
 Let your bending in the archer's hand  
 be for gladness;  
 For even as he loves the arrow that flies  
 so He loves also the bow that is stable.

Kahlil Gibran, THE PROPHET

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ODDS & ENDS

What we have here is an empty box.

Please fill it.  
 All contributions invited.  
 Poetry-jokes-or whatever.  
 Original or an old favorite.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are actively soliciting people to help out with cleanup after meetings. But don't wait to be drafted-just pitch in if you have the time.

Rita LaPorte, National President of DCB, tells us we're pronouncing "Bilitis" wrong. Seems it should be Bil-eet-us instead of Bil-ite-us. Well we're new at this, and Bostonians have always been noted for the unique way they do things.

We're asking everybody to provide herself with a last name. By all means, create one if you wish. But if you make VOYAGE, Sue Smith sounds more competent than Sue S.. Do let an officer know who you are going to be. (For mailing purposes we'll continue to use the names you have already given.)

Arlington Street Church asks that we leave and enter by the door marked "Honeywell Chapel". The other group meeting in the church Friday nights is The Damaged Angels, a coffehouse with dim lights and checkered tablecloths.

COMING

SOON →

(Pg.7)

MAIDEN VOYAGE

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NOTICE

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Bylaws of the national organization rule that no DOB newsletter shall be sold. MAIDEN VOYAGE will also be such a service; subscriptions are free to members of DOB along with their membership;

VOYAGE will also appear in the mailbox of any interested adult on our mailing list. This is how it should be. Unfortunately, however, being a nonprofit organization does have its problems- especially in areas of production and circulation. Financial and staff limitations have already materialized.

So much is happening that is of interest to us all-activity within DOB, within the homophile community, and society at large-that MAIDEN VOYAGE is sure to become a valuable service that can and should expand as we expand.

Therefore...

We need your support, please-help us to grow.

Donations are requested because we have no other source of income but the donations of our members, friends, and interested parties.

If you can aid in production, circulation, reporting-anything, please let us hear from you. \*\*\*\*\*

SUBSCRIPTION

Editor: Boston Chapter Newsletter,  
DOB MAIDEN VOYAGE, Box 221  
Prudential Center Station,  
Boston, Mass. 02199

\* Contact Editor,  
\* Marty Kelly, c/o  
\* Maiden Voyage or  
\* telephone 581-1869  
\*  
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Dear Editor:

Please continue my free subscription to the MAIDEN VOYAGE.

Enclosed please find my donation (optional) \_\_\_\_\_.

Name:

Address:

ZIP CODE

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ABOVE FORM PROMPTLY.

VIEWPOINT

The Killing of Sister George,  
The Fox, Therese and Isabelle;  
what did you think of these movies?  
Did they infuriate you or did  
you consider them fair portrayals?  
It's obvious that there could be  
no one movie or play that depicts  
gay life in a nutshell. Straight  
life is varied with thousands of  
stories to tell, and of course  
it's the same in the gay world.

But there is much disagreement  
among the homophile community as  
to the accuracy of not only the  
movies mentioned above, but  
dozens of other productions.  
Is bad publicity better than no  
publicity?

And what of gay references in  
"straight films"? Are you of-  
fended when a superstar screams  
"Dirty queer" on the great sil-  
ver screen? It seems that almost  
every recent movie has some kind  
of gay sequence in it. What  
VIEWPOINT wants to learn is how  
you feel about either the references  
or the productions that actually  
have homosexual plots.

So if you cried when Sister George  
was reduced to a "cow", while  
the straight couple next to you  
laughed- or if you cringe when a  
script screams PERVERSION- or  
even if that's what you like-  
then please let us know. C'mon,  
everyone's a critic!

VIEWPOINT, P.O. BOX 221  
PRUDENTIAL CENTER STATION  
BOSTON, MASS. 02199

WHO WAS BILITIS?

It's a long story, folks.  
Seems that when D.O.B. was  
first organized they wanted  
a name that would give a  
clue to the nature of the  
organization to its poten-  
tial members, while still  
not letting the straight people  
know what was going on. So  
they went to French liter-  
ature, and found the work  
of one Pierre Louys, a hoaxter  
who put on the whole French  
intelligentsia some hundred years  
ago by telling them he'd discovered  
manuscripts written by Bilitis,  
a girl friend of Sappho on the  
isle of Lesbos, such that would  
make Sappho's work look like  
"greasy kid stuff"! So all the  
French started reading Louys  
until someone spoiled the fun  
by saying he saw Louys writing  
the things himself by candle-  
light in a garret room. Poor M.  
Louys was reviled and disgraced,  
and has since been forgotten by  
all but us.

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\$1.00

CALENDAR

- December 20 - 8:30 P.M.: Party at Grange Hall in Weare, New Hampshire  
(Details elsewhere in this issue.)
- January 2 - 9:00 P.M.: Business meeting in Clarke Room, Arlington  
St. Church, 355 Boylston St. Boston.
- 10:00 P.M.: Auction of gay books to raise money for  
D.O.B. will follow business meeting. Everyone is  
asked to try to donate a book or two, and bring  
funds to bid with also. Refreshments will be served.
- January 9 - 8:00 P.M.: Meeting to hear the tape of the D.O.B.  
radio program which was broadcast Nov. 22 over WMEX.  
Meeting in the Clarke Room, Arlington St. Church.  
Discussion will follow. Refreshments will be served.
- January 16 - 8:45 P.M.: "What Does Organized Religion Say About  
Homosexuality?" - talk by Edward Harris, Pastor of  
the Arlington St. Church. Find out why Arlington  
St. Church welcomes D.O.B.. Discussion and refreshments  
will follow. Clarke Room.

ALL D.O.B. EVENTS WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT THE ANNOUNCED TIME.

Meeting places will always be open early for those who wish to come  
early.

Unless otherwise noted-women only, please.

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COMING SOON IN BOSTON DOB

- Formation of a committee to direct our activities in law reform  
and public education. If you would like to serve on such a  
committee, be sure one of the officers is aware of your interest.
- Formation of a committee to plan parties, dances, and social events.  
Let one of the officers know if your interested.
- Discussions, more speakers, sports events, and more parties.  
Watch your mail for details.





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